

**GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA
ABSTRACT**

Animal Husbandry, Dairy Development & Fisheries Department – Restriction and Regulation of exotic fish culture – Tilapia (*Oreochromis mossabicus*) to conserve the indigenous aquatic diversity in the water bodies of Telangana – Guidelines – Approved – Orders -Issued.

**ANIMAL HUSBANDRY, DAIRY DEVELOPMENT & FISHERIES (V&F)
DEPARTMENT**

G.O.RT.No. 97

Dated: 20-07-2016.
Read the following:-

- 1) G.O.Rt.No.80 EFS&T (FOR.II) Dept., dt.18.04.2015.
- 2) From the Commissioner of Fisheries, Hyderabad Lr.No.1382/C2/2016, dated.11.02.2016.

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ORDER:-

In the reference 1st read above, Government have constituted (8) Expert Committees one of it on Animal and Fish Biodiversity. The Expert Committee in its first meeting held on 26.10.2015 suggested to restrict or regulate exotic fish culture like Tilapia (*Oreochromis mossabicus*) so as to conserve the indigenous aquatic diversity in the water bodies of Telangana and requested the State Fisheries Department for framing guidelines for regulating exotic fish culture and monoculture of exotic species.

2. In the reference 2nd read above, the Commissioner of Fisheries, Telangana, Hyderabad has stated that the rivers, canals and water bodies of Telangana have good number of fish fauna and the checklist is (109) fish species. Many of the species are near threatened and vulnerable species and need to be conserved. Conservation of aquatic biodiversity is important from the ecological, socio-economical, nutritional, cultural, aesthetic, recreational and pharmaceutical point of view. Regulating the introduction of exotic fish species to conserve the indigenous fish species, measures for standardization of captive breeding and seed production technology of endangered and critically endangered fishes and furnished the guidelines for approval of the Government

3. Government after careful examination, hereby approve the guidelines on par with Government of India guidelines to restrict and regulate exotic fish culture – Tilapia in water bodies so as to conserve the indigenous aquatic diversity as follows:-

- (i) The District Level Committee (DLC) for registration of new fish ponds/farms shall be the Competent Authority to permit the Tilapia Fish Nursery/Grow-out Farming in Fresh water/ Inland farms. The permission for taking up Tilapia Fish Nursery/ Grow-out Farming shall be accorded to farms which have already been registered with Fisheries Department and have complied with this order and the guidelines issued in the G.O.Ms.No.7, AH, DD & Fisheries (F.II) Department, Dt:16.03.2013 and subsequent Amendments thereon.

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- (ii) The farms which have already obtained permission from the District Level Committee as per the G.O. Ms. No.7, Animal Husbandry, Dairy Development & Fisheries (Fish.II) Department, dated 16.3.2013 and if the farmer is interested in taking up Tilapia Fish culture, he shall apply to the District Fisheries Officers (DFO) concerned with relevant documents for permission.
 - (iii) The District Fisheries Officer shall inspect the farm and has to certify that required bio-security measures have been made in the Farm as per the GOI Guidelines. Further he has to obtain from the farmer in writing that the guidelines issued by the Government of India from time to time in respect of Tilapia Fish culture would be adopted by him scrupulously.
 - (iv) The District Fisheries Officer can issue permission for taking up Tilapia Fish Culture. Permission shall be accorded within 90 days basing on the recommendations of the inspections conducted by the DLC members regarding the suitability of the farm for Tilapia Fish Nursery/ Grow-out Farming as per the guidelines for new ponds/ farms. In case of Tilapia culture in Aquaponic system where it is Recirculatory Aquaculture system and there is no bio-security threat, the DFO can issue permission for taking up Tilapia culture.
 - (v). For all other purposes such as Registration, Fees, Delays, action for Violations etc., the orders issued in the G.O Ms. No.7, AH, DD & Fisheries (Fish- II) Dept., Dated: 16.03.2013, and subsequent Amendments issued by the Govt., from time to time shall be applicable.
4. The Commissioner of Fisheries, Hyderabad shall take necessary action accordingly.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF TELANGANA)

SURESH CHANDA
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To
The Commissioner of Fisheries,
Telangana, Hyderabad.
Copy to:
The Under Secretary to Government of India, Animal Husbandry, Dairy Development & Fisheries Department, New Delhi.
The JDs/DDs/ADs through the Commissioner of Fisheries,
Hyderabad.
The Director of Animal Husbandry, Telangana State, Hyderabad.
The Accountant General, Telangana State, Hyderabad.
The Finance (EBS.II) Department.
The P.S. to Minister (AHDD & F) Dept.,
Sf/Sc.

//Forwarded::By order//

SECTION OFFICER